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Royal Geographical Society,

1865.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL,

READ AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING ON THE 22ND MAY.

THE Council, in submitting their Annual Report of the financial state and progress of the Royal Geographical Society, refer with satisfaction to the evidence it affords of another year of prosperity and usefulness.

Members.—Since the last Anniversary 162 Fellows have been elected, namely, 158 Ordinary (of whom 12 have paid their Life Compositions), 1 Honorary, and 3 Honorary Corresponding. During the same period the Society has lost 68 Fellows (besides 4 Honorary Corresponding), namely, 47 by death, and 21 by resignation; the total number on the list at the end of April of the present year being 1997 Ordinary, 65 Honorary Corresponding, and 5 Honorary Fellows. The number of Ordinary Fellows at the end of April, 1864, was 1907; the list shows, therefore, an increase of 90 during the year.

Finances.—As will be seen in the annexed Balance-sheet, the receipts for the year 1864 exceeded, by a small sum, the estimate given in the last year's Report; the actual amount (exclusive of the balance in hand) being 4977*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, and the estimated amount (also exclusive of the cash balance) 4965*l.* The disbursements show an excess over the estimate, a result due chiefly to certain changes

instituted in the course of the year, by which expenses which would otherwise not have been incurred until the year 1865, were entered in the past year's account. The excess of income over expenditure is, however, large, amounting to 1330*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* The sum which it was estimated the Society would have available for investment during the year, namely, 896*l.* 5*s.*, has been far exceeded, 1796*l.* 5*s.* having been added to the funded property: this difference is due to the sum estimated as likely to be spent for the furtherance of Geography being far in excess of the actual amount so spent, and to the investment of part of the large balance in hand at the commencement of the year.

The Funded Capital of the Society, which consisted at the beginning of 1863 of 7500*l.*, and at the end of 1864 of 11,500*l.*, now amounts to 12,500*l.*, bearing interest to the amount of 395*l.* per annum, the last 1000*l.* being invested in 5 per cent. India Stock. The funded property is now about equal to the full amount of Life Compositions of living Members, the number of living Life-Compounders being 509. In addition to this the Council would call the attention of Fellows to the great increase, and the considerable present value, of the Society's property in Maps and Books, some details of which are given in this Report.

A legacy of 20*l.*, bequeathed to the Society by the late Beriah Botfield, Esq., has been received during the year.

The current accounts, mentioned in the last year's Report as standing against the Society at the close of the year, have all been liquidated, and the miscellaneous expenses are now paid regularly at the end of every month, thus greatly aiding the Finance Committee in their examination of the accounts. The Balance-sheet, Appendix A, shows that the accounts have been duly audited to the end of the year. In accordance with the last Report of Council they have further been examined to the end of April of the current year; by this means a complete check is kept over the Society's expenditure, and the Council constantly informed of the state of the Finances.

The sum of 75*l.* was paid to the widow of Mr. Greenfield, the late Assistant-Secretary, in lieu of ten days' salary due at the time of his death.

STATEMENT showing the RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the Society from the Year 1848 to the 31st Dec. 1864.

STATEMENT showing the Progress of the INVESTMENTS of the Society from the Year 1832 to the 31st Dec. 1864.

Year.	Cash Receipts within the Year.	Cash Amounts invested in Funds.	Deducting Amounts invested in Funds; actual Expenditure.	End of the Year, Dec. 31.	Cash invested.	Amount of Stock purchased.		
						£.	s.	d.
1848	696 10 5	.. ..	755 6 1	1832	3657 10 0	4000	0	0
1849	778 3 0	.. ..	1098 7 6	1833	4130 0 0	4500	0	0
1850	1036 10 5	.. ..	877 2 10	1834	4426 0 0	4800	0	0
1851	1056 11 8	.. ..	906 14 7	1835	4426 0 0	4800	0	0
1852	1220 3 4	.. ..	995 13 1	1836	4426 0 0	4800	0	0
1853	1917 2 6	.. ..	1675 6 0	1837	4426 0 0	4800	0	0
1854	2565 7 8	.. ..	2197 19 3	1838	4426 0 0	4800	0	0
1855	2584 7 0	.. ..	2636 3 1	1839	4129 15 0	4500	0	0
1856	3372 5 1	533 10 0	2814 8 1	1840	3788 10 0	4150	0	0
1857	3142 13 4	378 0 0	3480 19 9	1841	2801 0 0	3150	0	0
1858	3089 15 1	.. ..	2944 13 6	1842	2801 0 0	3150	0	0
1859	3471 11 8	950 0 0	3423 3 9	1843	2219 18 6	2578	4	4
1860	6449 12 1	466 17 6	5406 3 7	1844	2219 18 6	2578	4	4
1861	4792 12 9	1358 2 6	3074 7 4	1845	2219 18 6	2578	4	4
1862	4659 7 9	1389 7 6	3095 19 4	1846	1933 1 0	2278	4	4
1863	5256 9 3	1837 10 0	3655 4 0	1847	2133 1 0	2502	6	2
1864	4977 8 6	1796 5 0	3647 7 10	1848	1886 16 8	2224	1	10
				1849	1886 16 8	2224	1	10
				1850	1886 16 8	2224	1	10
				1851	1886 16 8	2224	1	10
				1852	1886 16 8	2224	1	10
				1853	1662 14 10	2000	0	0
				1854	1662 14 10	2000	0	0
				1855	1662 14 10	2000	0	0
				1856	2216 4 10	2600	0	0
				1857	2594 4 10	3000	0	0
				1858	2594 4 10	3000	0	0
				1859	3544 4 10	4000	0	0
				1860	4011 2 4	4500	0	0
				1861	5369 4 10	6000	0	0
				1862	6758 12 4	7500	0	0
				1863	8596 2 4	9500	0	0
				1864	10365 7 4	11500	0	0

In 1856 a Treasury Grant of 1000*l.* for the East African Expedition received.

In 1860 a Treasury Grant of 2500*l.* for the East African Expedition received.

Publications.—The 33rd volume of the Journal, which was delayed in its appearance last year, owing to the death of the late Assistant-Secretary, has since been issued, and the Council have now the satisfaction of announcing the completion of the 34th volume, which may be had on application at the Society's apartments. The varied interest and general value of the memoirs which it contains, and the large number and good quality of the illustrations, will, it is hoped, make this volume acceptable and useful to the Fellows. In addition to an average number of memoirs, the present volume contains a treatise entitled 'Hints to

Travellers,' compiled and edited by a Committee, consisting of three Members of the Council, Mr. F. Galton, Vice-Admiral Sir George Back, and Admiral R. Collinson, aided by the Assistant-Secretary and the Curator of Maps. This treatise, although having the same title, is not a simple revision of the former work, published by the Society in 1854, and printed in the 24th volume of the Journal, but is entirely rewritten, with a view to including hints on the newest approved methods of exploration in little-known countries. The treatise will also be printed separately, as a pamphlet, and distributed *gratis* to intending travellers.

The 8th volume of Proceedings has been also completed since the last Anniversary, and contained six parts, instead of five, the usual number. Volume IX., comprising the reports of meetings of the present session, is now in course of publication, and three numbers have already been issued.

The Council have the pleasure of reporting a considerable increase in the sale of the Society's publications over the previous year (the first in which the item was separated in the accounts from other receipts), the total sales for 1864 being 105*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*, against 65*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* in 1863.

Library.—The accessions to the Library since the last Report have been 969 volumes of books and pamphlets, of which 72 were purchased. Amongst the more valuable additions may be mentioned Castelnau's 'Expedition dans les Parties Centrales de l'Amerique du Sud,' 15 vols.; and Gay's 'Historia Fisica y Politica de Chile,' in 26 vols., for both of which magnificent works the Society is indebted to the generosity of their Secretary, Clements R. Markham, Esq. The Council hope to be able hereafter to report the addition of other expensive works of this nature to the Library, particularly the French scientific Voyages, many of which are still desiderata. Another important accession is a series of the 'Selections from the Government Records of India,' consisting of 300 volumes, full of geographical information, which have been presented by the Secretary of State for India.

The Council have now the satisfaction to announce the completion of the new Library Catalogue, which was mentioned as in preparation in their last Report. The delay in its appearance has been due simply to the length of time required in compiling a Catalogue of so large a Library, on the very complete method

which has been adopted, namely, that of entering the contents of all collections of voyages, besides giving full titles to the rest of the Geographical works. The Catalogue consists of more than 500 pages, and the Council have decided, notwithstanding the considerable extra expense of compiling and printing, to present it gratis to Members, on their applying for their copies at the Society's apartments.

A classified Index of the Geographical works, including pamphlets and memoirs in Transactions, contained in the Library, is now being prepared by Mr. H. W. Bates, our energetic Assistant-Secretary, and will be printed as a Supplement to the Alphabetical Catalogue.

Map-Collection.—The accessions to this department have been unusually numerous this year, consisting of 8183 sheets of Maps and Charts, 6 Atlases, and 8 Diagrams. The facility of access to this important Collection has led to its being largely used during the past year by the Fellows, Travellers, and the Public generally. The following accessions deserve especial notice.

Our own Government have added the munificent donation of 7480 sheets of the Ordnance Survey, consisting chiefly of Maps on the larger scales, viz.:—Towns on the scale of 5 to 10 feet to the mile, and parishes on that of 25 inches to the mile; also a copy of Domesday-book in 33 volumes. All these have been arranged in Geographical order, amalgamated with the Society's Collection, and catalogued, and are now available for the use of the public. The Admiralty have presented 50 sheets of Charts. Most of the European Governments have responded to the applications for Maps. The Danish Government have added all the official, topographical, and geological Maps hitherto published, comprising 50 sheets. The French Government have presented 193 sheets of the grand Topographical Survey of France, commenced in 1833, on a scale of $\frac{1}{80000}$ ($\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch to the mile); also Maps of Algeria on 19 sheets; and the Hydrographical Department have added 91 sheets of Charts. The Prussian Government have supplied the principal Maps they have published, in 178 sheets. The Dutch Government have sent 5 sheets of the Topographical Map of Holland; the Swedish Government have added 8 sheets to the Geological Map commenced in 1863 by Erdmann, and the Government of Switzerland have completed their gift of Dufour's Official

Map, in 25 sheets. Maps of the Seats of War in America and New Zealand have been supplied by the Topographical Department of the War Office; and Maps of Kashmir by Captain J. G. Montgomerie, Colonel Scott's Map of India, Captain Grantham's Map of Natal, Van der Welde's Syria, and Johnston's Maps of Australia and New Zealand, have also been added to the Collection.

A small Library of Books has been purchased, and deposited in the Map-Room for the use of Travellers, consisting of about 50 volumes of elementary works and manuals.

Instrument-Room.—Since the last Anniversary, Instruments have been supplied at the cost of the Society to one Traveller only, Mr. R. B. N. Walker, who has recently left England to explore Equatorial Africa east of the Gaboon, to whom a complete set, costing 43*l.*, has been given. Several other travellers have, however, availed themselves of the advantages offered in selecting sets of instruments at their own expense.

The principal opticians of London have been again invited to deposit specimens of such instruments as travellers mostly use; but none of them have done so excepting the successor to Mr. Cary's establishment, Mr. Porter.

Grants to Travellers.—During the year 1864, one grant only was made to assist exploration, namely, that of 50*l.* to M. Gérhard Rohlfs in his journey across the Great Atlas from Marocco to Tripoli. The testimonial, value 25 guineas, given at the Anniversary to Mr. Gifford Palgrave for his adventurous journey across Arabia, is included in the Balance-sheet, under the head "Gold Medals." The sum of 1000*l.*, stated in the last year's Report as held in readiness for an exploration of the Nile Sources from Egypt, has not been called for; but 500*l.* have been voted by the Council to aid in an exploration having the same end in view, which will commence from another part of Africa, namely, the new expedition of Dr. Livingstone, now in preparation, from a point on the east coast towards the great Central Lakes. This sum is placed in the estimate of the current year's expenses, together with 200*l.*, which have been paid during the present financial year, namely, 100*l.* to Mr. R. B. N. Walker, in addition to the instruments mentioned above, and 100*l.* to Captain Wilson (through Sir Henry James), as a contribution towards the expense of ascertaining the exact relative level of the Dead Sea.

APPENDIX A.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR THE YEAR 1864.

Receipts.

Expenditure.

REGINALD T. COCKS, *Treasurer.*

Audited 1st February, 1865.

THOMAS H. BROOKING, }
G. BALFOUR, }
CHARLES WHITE, }
ROBERT F. COOKE, }
Auditors.

APPENDIX B.

ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 1865.

*Receipts.**Expenditure.*

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Cash Balance, 1st Jan., 1865	542	6	0
Annual Subscriptions	2550	0	0
Life Compositions	425	0	0
Entrance Fees	375	0	0
Arrears of Subscriptions	170	0	0
Royal Premium	52	10	0
Parliamentary Grant	500	0	0
Sale of Publications	100	0	0
Dividends and Small Receipts	420	0	0
EXPENDITURE:—						
Dr. Livingstone	500
Mr. R. B. N. Walker	100
Contribution towards the Settlement of the Dead Sea Level	100	0	0
M. Gerhard Rohlfs	100
Instruments to Mr. Walker	43	0	0
Balance
						843 0 0
						531 16 0
						£5144 16 0